

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3 MAY 2016 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

PRESENT: Sue Pownall (in the Chair), Krys Gaffney, Sue Johnson, Frank Lightfoot and Steve McDonnell.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Sue Brophy, Nick Coster, Nicola Francis and Tony Whittle.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 5 April 2016 had been distributed to Committee members. **SP** had written to the member on plot 30 to let her know that her rent would not be reduced. Harry and Ethnie Carter had replied to **SP's** letter and were delighted to be made honorary members of Moorside.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had arranged for the hire of a skip through the City Council at a cost of £160 and would be reimbursed by the association. She had received notification of the City Allotment Competition; the closing date for entries was 30 June and judging would take place between 5 and 7 July. As the season was late this year, shortlisting of eligible plots would be held in the third week of June.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NF was not present at the meeting.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

SP reported that a fresh supply of paraffin had arrived and that there had been a large delivery of goods from *CTS*; sales were going well.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTION

There were 29 people on the waiting list and **TW** had re-let plot 32. The inspection team had found the site generally in good order; they were, however, concerned about the state of plot 96 and **SP** would send an initial letter to the tenants to establish whether they were experiencing specific problems with working their garden.

BEE GROUP

There was nothing to report regarding bees. A question arose about whether there were guidelines on the height of netting erected around hives.

NAWG MATTERS

SP intended to stand for re-election as a NAWG representative in June since her three-year tenure expires. The forum for re-elections would be held on 9th June at 6.00 pm at the Civic Centre and **SP** hoped that she would be supported by Moorside members. She had discussed cultivation standards and building guidelines with the Allotments Officer who welcomed Moorside's policy to restrict future structures on plots to one greenhouse and one shed, neither to exceed 10ft x 8ft. **SP** understood that some allotments would be restored on the Nunsmoor site but there was no further information available from the Allotments Officer at this stage. The City Show would be held on 18th September in Leazes Park, with staging on 17th.

PLANT SCHEME 2016

SJ reported that the scheme had taken £97 during April which was comparable to 2015. Members would be emailed to advertise the plant scheme. **SJ** was proposing to open the plant scheme for an evening session later in the month.

MOORSIDE SHOW

Pat Francis was still sourcing raffle prizes for the show; **SP** was willing to let Pat approach her suppliers and wholesalers to do so.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ **SP** had received a quotation of £400 for 20 tons of chippings for the central lane provided that it was spread by the association. The council's maintenance department was also to provide a quotation for laying and flattening the chippings.
- ◆ The bee garden was infested with bindweed; **KG** and **SB** were digging it over and re-planting the garden.
- ◆ **FL** proposed to turn part of the turnaround area into a butterfly garden. **KG** confirmed that some funding for plants would be available from the bee garden grant; **FL** would organise the project.
- ◆ **SM** had been delegated to prepare a set of guidelines on health and safety on allotment sites; it was not clear whether the document he had compiled had been circulated to the committee but he would send it to **SP** and it would be discussed at a future meeting.
- ◆ **SP** had written to the tenant on plots 68/69 regarding a partially built construction on 22 April but had not received a response.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 7 June 2016 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a site inspection at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 6.55 p.m.

KG

15 May 2016